

Alberta Chinese Language Consortium

Monday Oct 29th at 1:00pm at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton Boardroom

1. Education Minister Honourable Jeff Johnson visited Alberta Accreditation school in Macau and Hongkong, China in May.

Minister Johnson recently visited South Korea and The People's Republic of China from May 21 to May 30. The Minister's mission to Asia commenced with his attendance at the 5th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Education Ministerial Meeting in South Korea, where he represented and spoke on behalf of the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC). Minister Johnson was among several leaders, ministers, senior officials, and business representatives from 21 world economies who met to discuss this year's theme, Future Challenges and Educational Responses: Fostering Global, Innovative, and Cooperative Education. During the meeting, participants had the opportunity to share their country's expertise and experiences of fostering global and creative competencies with the hopes to develop reform strategies and resources to better prepare the 21st century learner.

After his attendance at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Education Ministerial Meeting, Minister Johnson visited China where he met with government officials, business representatives, and Alberta's two out-of-province accredited schools in the region, The International School of Macao and the Christian Alliance P.C. Lau Memorial International School of Hong Kong.

To date, Alberta has six out-of-province accredited schools located in Macau, Hong Kong, Abu Dhabi, Bermuda, Qatar, and Mexico. For more information on Alberta Education's process for accreditation of out-of-province schools, please visit: www.education.alberta.ca/students/internationaleducation/accreditation.aspx.

2. The 11th International Symposium on Chinese Language Teaching was held in Xi'an from August 15-17, 2012 . Over 500 scholars and teachers from 47 countries, including Canada, participated this symposium. 1 from Calgary, 2 from Edmonton.
3. Chinese language course for Bilingual program students' parents delivered by Joanna Chang in Calgary in spring semester 2012 was very successful. This project is supported by Calgary Mandarin bilingual Parents Association. Her paper reporting this project won "the best thesis" on The 11th International Symposium on Chinese Language Teaching held in China in Aug 2012.
4. Ms Doudou Zhang, an exchange teacher from Chongqing, arrived on 31st of Aug. She started teaching Chinese at Westpark Middle School and Eastview Middle

School in Red Deer Public from Sep. She will teach at Red Deer public schools for 2 years.

5. Associate Minister for International and Intergovernmental relations Teresa Woo-Paw visited Hanban on Sep 12th, Mr. Ma Jianfei, Executive director general of Hanban hosted her delegation. Her quotes: "My mission to China was a tremendous success. It provided many excellent opportunities for me to discuss enhancing Alberta's relations with China." She thanked Hanban for the ongoing support for CIE and also expressed her wish to look forward to the opening of the Confucius Classroom in Calgary. Discussion also covered areas for additional co-operation include sharing Hanban resources and promoting the free online use of learning materials.
6. Red Deer Public school Hunting Hills students received 600 dollars scholarship from Chinese Consulate General in Vancouver in Oct.
7. 24 teachers and students from Alberta applied and got the opportunity for the PD training week in China in Nov (9th to 16th) and Dec (24th to 31st). 4 from Edmonton, 20 from Calgary. This 2012 Teaching Materials Training Program for Local Chinese Teachers from Canada is hosted by Confucius Institute Headquarters / Hanban. This project is targeting to improve the quality of international Chinese language teaching, promote excellent Chinese language teaching materials of Hanban and provide specialized and diversified support for local Chinese teachers from foreign countries with respect to teaching and training materials.
8. Grande Prairie public school board is ready to present 4 PD workshops (Oct. 22nd to 25th) and 2 video conferencing workshops for Chongqing Beibei district junior high English teachers in late Oct. They have been preparing this for a year.
9. Dr. Roy Lyster from McGill University was invited to give lecture and workshop for Chinese, Spanish and German bilingual teachers in Edmonton on Nov. 3rd.
10. One Chongqing Beibei district school principals delegation of 6 people will visit St. Albert Public Schools + Grande Yellowhead Public schools + Grande Prairie Public schools from Oct 30th to Nov 7th.
11. 3rd Fenghua Cup Chinese Competition supported by QiaoBan (Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council) will be held on Nov. 24th 2012, by 4 Chinese heritage schools: 70ish students attend.—AE supports some prize
12. Calgary Chinese Culture Center 20th anniversary celebration was held on Sep. 28th, Calgary, during Alberta Culture Days. An original musical CD ---"culture and beyond" celebrating Chinese heritage--- is produced. It is a CD of original songs, written, composed and recorded by Calgary songwriter Paulo Finkelman. These songs are an entertaining and educational tool for all ages to learn about and appreciate the history and heritage of the Chinese community. The three songs are: (1) in Chinatown (2)unsung heroes (3)The Canton Block.

13. Chinese Principals of Accreditation delegation visit.

11 principals and administrators from Henan province and Shandong province in China visited Alberta from Oct. 24 to 25. 9 are school and university principals. The other 2 are Norman Zhang, executive director from Canadian Federation of University Preparatory Schools, who organized the non-Alberta portion of the forum in Toronto, Ontario in Canada. Ms. Xiulan Kang, director of China Scholarship Council Dongfang International. The participants are interested in setting up an Alberta accredited school in their respective city in China. Alberta Education made presentations on "Alberta Accreditation Requirements" "Student assessment and achievement" "programs of study (ESL, Math, Science, Social)" "High school diploma requirements" "campus Alberta" "English Language Arts" and "Teacher Qualifications". They also visited McNally high school. Deputy Minister hosted the farewell lunch. They also visit U. of A/

14. Junbo Chen, Chief representative for Hanban North America Center, and Jucy Yeou, executive director for BELA, visited Alberta Education, discussing opportunity and possibility of 2+1 program in senior high school. Waldemar Riemer, director for international education branch, Sandra Shepitka-Boyle, director for School Accreditation and Disputes Resolution attended this meeting.

15. Books donated to the schools by Hanban need to be cataloged so that they can be put on the bookshelves soon!